

Participation in political and public life is a human right as well as an important step in the process of enjoying other human rights. It encompasses the right to vote and the right to be elected. Explored are voter expectations about the outcome of the overall conducted voter education, degree of voter interest as well as participation in the electoral process.

# National Federation of the Disabled Nepal (NFDN)

.... A survey conducted for reconnoitering the perceptions of the voters with disabilities about their learning and experiences during the 2nd CA election.

#### **ABSTRACT**

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> CA election, various voter education campaigns were conducted comprised activities such as training on Voter education to CAF members, volunteer mobilization to orient the persons with disabilities on Election system, Voting Process, Electoral provisions on disability etc., street drama, door-to-door visit, posters, leaflets, coordination with DEO, and mock polling. Thus, in the 103 VDCs of mid and far western region where the voter education campaigns has been conducted before, post-election survey was conducted among 412 persons with disabilities to analyze the effectiveness of the voter education. The focus of the survey includes voter perceptions of their learning and experiences for voting during the 2<sup>nd</sup> CA election.

- Of the total sample about 83% of the respondents cast their vote in the CA election of November 19, 2013.
- The main reason for not casting vote were, not having citizenship card (34.3%), didn't find the polling station accessible to them/ couldn't go to the polling station (25.7%), out of district/country on polling day (10.0%), not having assistant for support (7.1%), had polling location in another district/ VDC (5.7%), and 17.1% didn't want to vote.
- 75.7% of those who cast their vote in the CA election marked the ballot paper validly, and 6.4% votes were invalidly cast. 17.8% of the respondents who had voted in CA election could not recall if they stamped the ballot paper without touching the boarder lines (The criterions for assessing the validity were use of the Swastika stamp to mark the ballot paper, putting only one stamp in the ballot papers and putting the stamp inside the box without touching any of the border lines).
- Of the respondents who indicated that they have invalidly marked the ballot paper, 36.4% put more
  than one stamp in single ballot paper, 27.3% marked the ballots with thump print and 9.1%made
  multiple errors.
- Among those who voted in the CA election, 1.8% voted in only one ballot paper.
- The most frequent mediums expressed by the respondents from where they obtained information about correct method of casting vote were: household visit by CAF (93.9%), pamphlet/ brochure (54.2%), posters (42.4%), political party/ candidates (21.3%), street drama (21.1%), ECN staff- DEO, Ni. Si. Ka, volunteers, etc. (10.5%).
- Before the Election Day, 86.9% of the total respondents were aware about the provisions for persons with disabilities for the Election Day. Among them, 100% knew about priority in voting (arrangement of separate queue for PWDs/elderly /pregnant voters), 75.9% knew about using transportation to go cast vote, and 73.5% knew about voting through trusted assistant.
- Of those who knew about the Election Day (E-Day) provision for PWDs, the main sources of information were household visit by CAF (97.3%), TV (70.2%) and Pamphlet/Leaflet (66.1%). Among the respondents who were aware about the E-Day provisions for the persons with disabilities, 79.5% were in need of priority in voting, 42.9% were in need of transportation facility to go cast their vote and 3.6% were in need of assistance in polling center to cast their vote. 20.5% mentioned that they would not require any of these provisions.

- Of the respondents who voted in CA election, highest proportion (73.5%) of the respondents benefitted from the provision of priority in voting, , followed by using transportation to go to vote (24.7%), and voting through trusted assistant (11%). 21.7% didn't use any facilities.
- 66.7% of the respondents who used E-day provisions for PWDs expressed their satisfaction on the use of these provisions.
- Among the respondents who were dissatisfied with the utility of the E-day provision for PWDs, the
  reasons of it were: Polling staffs were not aware of special provisions made for PWDs (95.5%), had
  to face difficulties to obtain the facilities made for PWDs (95.5%), Voters/political representatives
  protested when tried to use special provision (54.5%), and Polling center was not disable friendly
  (40.9%).

# **SURVEY AREA MAP**

# Post Election Survey in 6 Districts of Nepal, February, 2014



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#### **BACKGROUND:**

NFDN in partnership with IFES launched the project "Developing leadership and increasing electoral participation of persons with disabilities in Nepal" from April, 2013 in the mid and far-western regions (6 Districts: Banke, Bardiya, Dang, Kailai, Kanchanpur and Dadeldhura) of Nepal. The project focuses to capacitate and mobilize associations and groups of persons with disabilities, so they will be able to understand and exercise their civic, political and electoral rights. The project activities are being implemented in 120 VDCs of 6 districts by the 6 DPOs.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Constituent Assembly (CA) election, various voter education campaigns were conducted in 103 VDCs (Banke: 20, Bardiya: 18, Dang: 10, Kailali: 16, Kanchanpur: 19, Dadeldhura: 20). The campaign comprised activities such as training on Voter education to CAF members, volunteer mobilization to orient the persons with disabilities on Election system, Voting Process, Electoral provisions on disability etc., street drama, door-to-door visit, posters, leaflets, coordination with DEO, and mock polling. 9,095 persons with disabilities of 2697 households benefitted from the voter education conducted by the volunteers by door-to-door visit.

Thus, post-election survey was conducted to assess the effectiveness of the pre-election activities in the VDCs where the voter education campaigns had been conducted. The focus of the survey includes perceptions of voters with disabilities about their voting learning and experiences during CA election.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY:**

The main objective of the survey is to assess the effectiveness of pre-election project support. However, the specific objectives can be listed as follows:

- 1. To assess the participation of persons with disabilities in CA election
- 2. To assess the proportion of valid votes cast
- 3. To assess the information sources for obtaining the information on CA election
- 4. To analyze the level of satisfaction of the voters with disabilities

#### **METHODOLOGY:**



The survey was conducted by NFDN district partners in their respective districts among 412 persons with disabilities, who have participated in various voter education events conducted by the project from September to November, 2013. The survey was conducted in February, 2014, in 103 VDCs (Banke: 20, Bardiya: 18, Dang: 10, Kailali: 16, Kanchanpur: 19, Dadeldhura: 20). From each of the group four respondents were selected for interview in systematic random fashion- counting from the right every 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> participant were selected as respondents for the interview. The total sample size of the survey was 412. Gender balance was maintained while sampling the respondents in the group and all the respondents were the Persons with Disabilities (PWD).

Only the eligible voters for the November 19, 2013 CA election (respondents who had completed 18 years of age as at 15 July 2013, the cut-off date notified by the ECN) were selected for the interviews.

The questionnaire for the survey was developed to obtain the information mainly on- if the respondent had cast their vote in CA election, if ballot papers were marked validly to select the candidate/party, how respondents obtained information about marking the ballot paper before election, knowledge & uses of provisions made for PWDs and satisfaction level from uses of these provisions.

NFDN conducted an orientation in Nepalgaunj for all DFPs and CFs, who would be the supervisors and enumerators, on conducting the survey- focusing on questionnaire, methodology, sampling of respondents and data entry. The field work was conducted by these trained enumerators in their respective VDCs. In total 18 enumerators/supervisors (M: 12, F:6)were mobilized for the survey.

Participant's breakdown with age group, education level, type of disabilities and DPOs are given below in Tables 1 to 4.

**Table 1: Age Group of the Respondents** 

Age groups	Male		Female		Total	
Age groups	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
18-25 years	51	24.8	64	31.1	115	27.9
26-35 years	65	31.6	51	24.8	116	28.2
36-45 years	20	9.7	36	17.5	56	13.6
46-55 years	62	30.1	43	20.9	105	25.5
Above 55 years	8	3.9	12	5.8	20	4.9
Total	206	100%	206	100%	412	100%

**Table 2: Education Level of the Respondents** 

Education Level	Male		Female		Total	
Education Level	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Not literate	16	7.8	36	17.5	52	12.6
Informal Education	26	12.6	54	26.2	80	19.4
Primary	46	22.3	30	14.6	76	18.4
Lower Secondary	48	23.3	34	16.5	82	19.9
Secondary Level	32	15.5	18	8.7	50	12.1
Higher Secondary	24	11.7	20	9.7	44	10.7
University Degree	14	6.8	14	6.8	28	6.8
Total	206	100%	206	100%	412	100%

Table 3: Type of disabilities of the respondents

ruble 3. Type of disabilities of the respondents						
Turns of Disabilities	Male		Female		Total	
Type of Disabilities	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Physical	88	42.7	92	44.7	180	43.7
Hearing	33	16.0	49	23.8	82	19.9
Visual	62	30.1	49	23.8	111	26.9
Intellectual	5	2.4	5	2.4	10	2.4
Multiple	18	8.7	11	5.3	29	7.0
Total	206	100%	206	100%	412	100%

Table 4: District/DPOs representing the Respondents

District/DPO Name		Male		Female		otal
District/ DFO Name	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Banke/DECCN	40	19.4	40	19.4	80	19.4
Dang/FHRD	20	9.7	20	9.7	40	9.7
Bardiya/BRCD	36	17.5	36	17.5	72	17.5
Kailali/AESK	32	15.5	32	15.5	64	15.5
Kanchanpur/NFDN Far western region	38	18.4	38	18.4	76	18.4
Dadeldhura/DDWSC	40	19.4	40	19.4	80	19.4
Total	206	100%	206	100%	412	100%

#### **FINDINGS:**



#### 1. Votes cast in the CA Election

All the respondents were asked if they had cast their vote in the Constituent Assembly Election held on November 19, 2013. A huge proportion (83%) of the respondents said that they had cast their vote in the CA election. The data published by Election Commission, Nepal (ECN) shows that 78.34% of the eligible voters have voted in CA election. The survey result is quite encouraging and indicates the outcome of voter education efforts made by DPOs.

17%
83%
No

Figure 1: Did you cast your vote in November 19, 2013 CA election? (n=412)

Further analysis of data shows,

• Similar proportion of male (87.4%) and female (78.6%) had cast their vote in the CA election.

- Comparing the vote casting status of the target groups of DPOs, proportion of vote cast is highest in Kailali (89.1%), followed by Kanchanpur (84.2%), Dadeldhura (83.8%), Bardiya (81.9%), Banke (80.0%) and lowest in Dang (77.5%).
- With the type of disabilities, highest votes were casted by persons with intellectual disabilities (100.0%), tailed by persons with hearing disabilities (87.8%), persons with visual disabilities (85.6%), persons with physical disabilities (79.4%), and the lowest of persons with multiple disabilities (75.9%).
- Proportion of votes cast is lower in 18-25 years age group (73.9%) compared to the above 25 years age group (86.5%).

#### 2. Reasons for not casting vote in CA election

Respondents who did not vote in the CA election were further asked for the reason for not voting. 34.3% of the respondents could/did not vote as they had not obtained their citizenship certificate due to which could not registered in voter register. 25.7% could not go to polling station as they were not accessible to them, 17.1% didn't want to vote, 7.1% could not vote as they had no assistance available to go cast their vote, and 5.7% had polling location in another district/VDC.

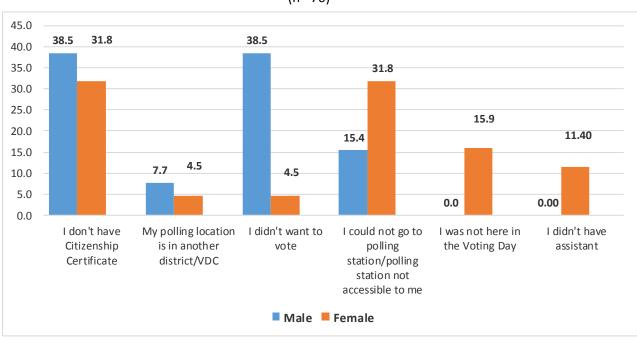


Figure 2: Why didn't you vote in November 19, 2013 CA election- Gender disaggregation? (n= 70)

Slightly more proportion of male didn't vote as they didn't have CC (38.5% male and 31.8% female). The proportion of male not wanting to vote is significantly higher than female (M: 38.5%, F: 4.5%). On the other hand higher proportion of female didn't vote as they were not able to go to the polling station (M: 15.4%, F: 31.8%) and for not having assistant (M: 0%, F: 11.4%). Also, female didn't vote as they were out of country/ VDC on the Election Day (M: 0%, F: 15.9%)

The major reason for persons with hearing disabilities for not voting in CA election was either they didn't have citizenship card (80.0%) or their polling station was in other district/VDC (20%).

# 3. Marking the ballot papers validly in CA election

One of the major focuses of the pre-election voter education events conducted was to make the target group aware on correct way of marking the ballot paper and to reduce the proportion of invalid votes. As to assess the impact of these activities, questions were asked to the respondents which would provide the information to assess the validity of the votes cast by the target group. With the compilation of data obtained from different questions final assessment was done for the validity of votes cast by the target groups.

Detail analysis is given in the below sections. Due to very insignificant difference, further disaggregation by gender, age group, district, types of disability etc. have not been done as they would not provide any meaningful information.

#### **Vote of Bhagiram Chaudhari**

Chaudhari of Bhagiram Jhalari-7, Kanchanpur says, "My guardians didn't take me to the voter registration center, and my name was not registered in the voter list. I got the opportunity to vote when NFDN - FWR brought bus in our VDC and took me to register in the voter list." NFDN-FWR came to know about Chaudhari during the baseline survey. "The CAF coordinator came to my home to teach about the voting process and the facilities for persons with disabilities. I learnt about the voting process, why should I vote, and how should I vote." I selected a political leader who I think can help persons with disabilities like us. Chaudhari used a motorcycle permitted by the DEO for reaching the polling station. He expresses, "I didn't have to sit in the line, I was directly taken forward and I voted myself."

#### 3a. Use of 'Swastika' stamp to mark the ballot paper

As in the past elections the ballot papers were to be marked using the stamp with 'Swastika' mark. Other ways of marking the ballot paper (such as: use of thumb print, use of pen, etc.) would make the ballot invalid.

Respondents who had cast their votes in the CA election were asked what they used to mark the ballot paper to select party/candidate. A huge proportion (98.2%) said that they used 'Swastika' stamp to mark the symbol of their party/candidate. Only few respondents (1.8%) said that 'thumb print' was used to mark the ballot paper.

#### 3b. Number of ballot papers cast

In CA election, voters were to cast their vote in two ballot papers; one for the First Past the Post (FPTP) and other for the proportional. The ballot papers had different colors so that they could be easily differentiated.

Respondents were asked if they voted in two different ballot papers or only one. Again 1.8% respondent cast the vote in one ballot paper whereas all the rest (98.2%) used two different (FPTP and PR) ballot papers to cast the vote.

However this criteria was not selected while assessing the validity of the votes cast considering that even only one ballot, if properly cast, would be valid.

# 3c. Use of more than one stamp in single ballot paper

This was another major criterion for assessing the validity of the ballot. Only one 'Swastika' stamp should be put in one ballot paper. If the ballot paper is stamped more than once, it would be taken as invalid.

Respondents who had cast their votes in

### I am Happy to participate in the voting process: Ram Chandra Kurmi

Due to polio ram Chandra Kurmi of Mohamadpur – 2, Bardiya had problem in mobility. His legs were all paralyzed. He was contacted by the CAF coordinator to BRCD. "I didn't have citizenship nor was registered in the voter list. I thought I had no right to vote." Kurmi was registered in the voter list as well as citizenship card was provided. He actively participated to orient other voters with disabilities in the 2<sup>nd</sup> CA election. "I went door-to-door in wheelchair to encourage all the voter with disabilities and I voted too".

the CA election were further asked if they had put only one stamp in one ballot paper or more. 95.9% of the respondents said that they had put only one 'swastika' mark in one ballot whereas 4.1% said that they put more than one stamp in a single ballot.

#### 3d. Placement of 'Swastika' stamp without touching the border

One of the criterions for being the votes valid was that the 'swastika' stamp should be carefully put in the symbol box of political party/candidate without touching the border lines of the box. But this criterion was not enforced strictly while counting the votes and votes were considered valid as long as the stamp mark indicated clearly which symbol had been stamped.

However this was taken as one of the factor to assess the validity of votes during analysis of data in this survey report. Respondents who cast their vote were asked if they had put the stamp carefully without touching the border lines of the symbol box. 79.8% of the respondents said that had put the stamp correctly and 2.3% stated that the stamp mark had touched the border lines. 17.8% of the respondents could not recall about it.

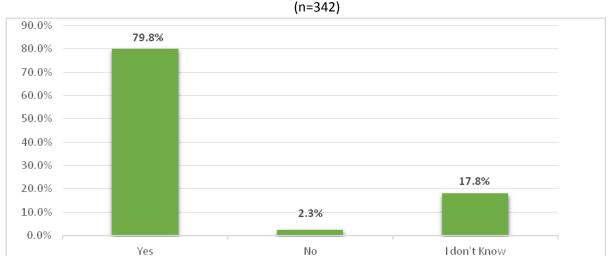


Figure 3: Did you put the stamp inside the symbol box without touching the border line?

#### 3e. Validity of the votes

Above mentioned data (3a, 3c and 3d) obtained on the different criterions set for the validity of the votes were compiled to analyze the total valid/invalid votes. However the data mentioned above in 3b about 'whether the respondent voted on one or two ballots' has not been included in the compilation as

#### Chudamani on Motor Cycle ride to vote

In order to vote in the 2<sup>nd</sup> CA Election, Chudamani Dhital, a 50 years old person with visual disability of Manpur VDC, traveled in a motor cycle. Before this election, he was not able to go to the polling center easily and even fell in some places.

Dhital came to know about the provision to use transportation via the voter education orientation and street drama. He asked for permission to use the transportation with the Election Officer with the support of Diwakar Pande, CAF coordinator of Manpur. He was received and dropped at home from the Polling Center in the motor cycle. Dhital expressed his happiness for having assistance during voting. He was able to vote to his selected political leader.

this data doesn't provide information on validity of the votes.

The data analysis also considered 'putting stamp touching the borderline of symbol' as invalid vote though this criterion was not enforced strictly while counting the votes and ballots were considered valid as long as the stamp mark indicated clearly the symbol that had been stamped. Hence the proportion of invalid vote will be even lower if this criterion is excluded in the analysis.

In total 75.7% of the votes were validly cast. 6.4% of the votes could be counted as invalid as they were- either not marked by 'swastika' stamp and/or more than two stamps were put in a single ballot and/or the stamps were put in the symbol of party/candidate touching the border lines.

17.8% of the respondents said that they could not recall whether they put the stamps correctly without touching the border line of the symbol. Hence there is still uncertainty about the validity of these votes

but the chances of being these vote valid is higher as this criteria was not enforced strictly while counting the votes.

17.8
6.4
75.7

Valid Invalid IDon't Know

Figure 4: Were the ballots validly cast?

#### 3f. Reasons for votes being invalid

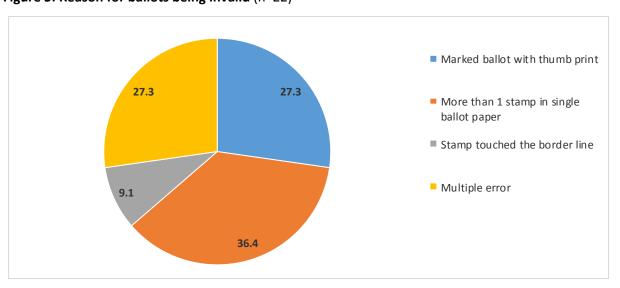


Figure 5: Reason for ballots being invalid (n=22)

Due to a very small proportion of votes seen as invalid, further disaggregation of data may not provide a meaningful result. However disaggregation by type of error has been made below just to have an indicative idea on types of errors made by the respondents.

The major cause for being the ballot invalid was because more than one stamp was put in a single ballot paper. 36.4% of the votes were considered invalid due to this reason. The other major reason for being the ballots invalid was putting the stamp touching the borderline of the symbol (this has been considered as invalid during analysis of this report); 27.3% of the ballots were marked with more than one stamp. Similarly, 27.3% of the ballots were marked with thump print.

The proportion of ballots having multiple errors was 9.1%.

#### 4. Information source for casting vote correctly

All the respondents, including those who didn't cast their vote in CA election, were asked what the sources of information were from where they learnt about the process of casting vote in CA election. Multiple responses were obtained for this questions and the data analysis is done accordingly.

The most frequent source of information stated by the respondent was through household visit by CAF (93.9%) and the least was through community awareness raising meetings (2.9%). Other major source of information were pamphlet/ brochure (54.2%), radio (44.9%), posters (42.4%), TV (28.4%), political party/ candidates (21.3%), street drama (21.1%), family/ friends/ neighbors (17.2%), newspaper (14.7%), ECN staff- DEO, Ni. Si. Ka, volunteers, etc. (10.5%), community awareness raising meetings (4.9%).

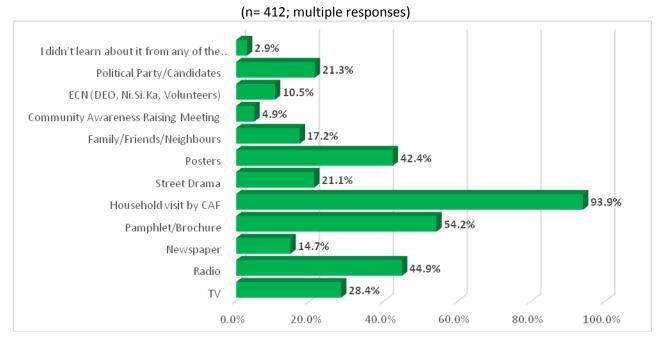


Figure 6: How did you learn about correct way of casting vote?

Further analysis of the data shows,

- Household visit by the CAF was the most frequent source in case of districts too, highest (96.8%) in Kailali, followed by 94.4% in Bardiya, 94.9% in Banke, 93.7% in Dadeldhura, 92.5% in Dang and the least of 90.8% in Kanchanpur.
- Also, the household visit program was the most frequent source for both male (93.1%) and female (94.7%) respondents. The pamphlet/ Brochure was second most preferred source for male (55%) and female (53.4%), whereas community awareness raising meeting (M: 7.9% and F: 1.9%) was the least preferred source.

• In case of type of disability, household visit of CAF is the most preferred source with highest of 100% of persons with hearing disabilities and also persons with multiple disabilities. In case of persons with physical disabilities, the least preferred was the community awareness raising events.

The details of the source of information for casting vote have been presented in table 5 and 6:

Table 5: Disability disaggregation for the most frequent source of information for casting vote (n=412; multiple responses)

Source of information	Type of Disability					
Source of information	Physical	Hearing	Visual	Intellectual	Multiple	
TV	21.1%	41.5%	29.9%	30.0%	31.0%	
Radio	35.0%	64.6%	42.1%	40.0%	62.1%	
Newspaper	8.9%	17.1%	20.6%	30.0%	17.2%	
Pamphlet/Brochure	53.3%	68.3%	42.1%	40.0%	69.0%	
Household visit by CAF	91.7%	100.0%	93.5%	70.0%	100.0%	
Street Drama	17.8%	12.2%	34.6%	50.0%	6.9%	
Posters	44.4%	34.1%	46.7%	50.0%	34.5%	
Family/Friends/Neighbours	21.1%	18.3%	13.1%	10.0%	6.9%	
Community Awareness Raising Meeting	3.9%	0.0%	10.3%	0.0%	6.9%	
ECN (DEO, Ni.Si.Ka, Volunteers)	11.1%	9.8%	11.2%	0.0%	10.3%	
Political Party/Candidates	24.4%	13.4%	22.4%	30.0%	17.2%	
I didn't learn about it from any of the mediums	4.4%	0.0%	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	

Table 6: Gender disaggregation for the most frequent source of information for casting vote (n=412; multiple responses)

Source of information	Male	Female
TV	26.7%	30.1%
Radio	39.6%	50.0%
Newspaper	16.3%	13.1%
Pamphlet/Brochure	55.0%	53.4%
Household visit by CAF	93.1%	94.7%
Street Drama	21.8%	20.4%
Posters	39.6%	45.1%
Family/Friends/Neighbors	17.3%	17.0%
Community Awareness Raising Meeting	7.9%	1.9%
ECN (DEO, Ni.Si.Ka, Volunteers)	16.3%	4.9%
Political Party/Candidates	23.3%	19.4%
I didn't learn about it from any of the mediums	5.0%	1.0%

#### 5. Learning about electoral provisions on disability:

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> CA Election, the Election Commission of Nepal developed provisions focused for persons with disabilities; like having a trusted aide for voting, accessibility through ramps in various polling stations, facility of using the transportation on E-Day to reach the polling station, and separate queue for the PWDs/ pregnant women and elderly people for priority voting.

All the respondents were asked if they know about the provisions made for PWDs for the Election Day. 86.9% of the total respondents were aware about the provisions before the Election Day whereas, 13.1% were not aware about any such provisions.

Similarly, 83.5% of respondents of Banke, 82.5% of Dang, 88.9% of Bardiya, 93.8% in Kailali, 84.2% in Kanchanpur and 87.5% in Dadeldhura were aware about the electoral provisions for PWDs made for Election Day. Similarly, 36.17% of the respondents with physical disability, 18.93% with hearing disabilities, 22.57% with visual disabilities, 2.43% with intellectual disabilities, 6.8% with multiple disabilities were aware about the provisions for disabilities during the Election Day.

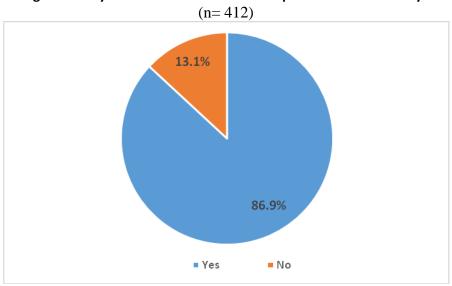


Figure 7: Do you know about the electoral provisions on disability?

#### 5a. Knowledge of E-Day provisions for PWDs:

Of those who knew about the E-day provisions, all (100%) knew about voting priority for PWDs, 75.9% knew about transportation facility and 73.5% knew about voting through trusted assistance.

Among the 255 respondents who were aware about using transportation to go caste vote, it includes 71.3% of the persons with physical disabilities, 68.1% of persons with hearing disabilities, 91% of

persons with visual disabilities, 70% of persons with intellectual disabilities, and 72.7% of persons with multiple disabilities. Similarly, among the 336 respondents who were aware about arrangement of separate queue for PWDs/ elderlies/ pregnant, it includes 100% of the persons with physical, hearing, visual, intellectual, and multiple disabilities. Beside these, among the 247 respondents who were aware about voting through trusted assistant, it includes 65% of the persons with physical disabilities, 80.6% of persons with hearing disabilities, 80.9% of persons with visual disabilities, 40% of persons with intellectual disabilities, and 90.9% of persons with multiple disabilities.

Table no. 7: Knowledge of E-Day provisions for PWDs (n=358, multiple responses)

			Ty	pe of Dis	ability		
What E-day provision you	knew?	Physical	Hearing	Visual	Intellectual	Multiple	Total
Using transportation to	Count	102	49	81	7	16	255
go cast vote	% within	71.3%	68.1%	91.0%	70.0%	72.7%	
	disability type						
Priority in voting for	Count	143	72	89	10	22	336
PWDs/ elderlies/	% within	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
pregnant	disability type						
Voting through trusted	Count	93	58	72	4	20	247
assistant	% within	65.0%	80.6%	80.9%	40.0%	90.9%	
	disability type						
Total	Count	143	72	89	10	22	336

#### 5b. Medium of learning about E-Day provisions for PWDs:

Of the respondents who were aware about the E-Day provisions for the persons with disabilities 97.3% knew from household visit by CAF, 70.2% from TV and 66.1% knew from Pamphlet/leaflet.

Comparing the data by district, 98.4% from Banke, 96.7% from Dang, 98.3% from Bardiya, 98.2% from Kailali, 95.2% from Kanchanpur, and 97% from Dadeldhura learnt from the household visit by CAF.

All (100%) of female respondents were informed about the E-Day provisions from the household visit by CAF, 65.8% by TV and 62% by the pamphlet/ leaflet. Similarly, 94.9% of male who were informed by the household visit by CAF, 74.2% by TV and 69.7% by the pamphlet/ leaflet.

120.0%

100.0%

94.9%

74.2%
65.8%

69.7%
62.0%

40.0%

40.0%

Household visit by CAF

TV

Pamphlet/ Leaflet

Male

Female

Figure 8: Gender disaggregation -Medium of Learning about E-Day provisions on disability (n= 336, multiple responses)

#### 5c. Need of E-day provision for PWDs:

Among the respondents who were aware about the E-Day provisions for the persons with disabilities, 82.3% of female and 77% of male required arrangement of separate queue. Similarly 84.6% of persons with physical disabilities required arrangement of separate queue and 18.2% of persons with multiple disabilities required the support of trusted assistant for voting.

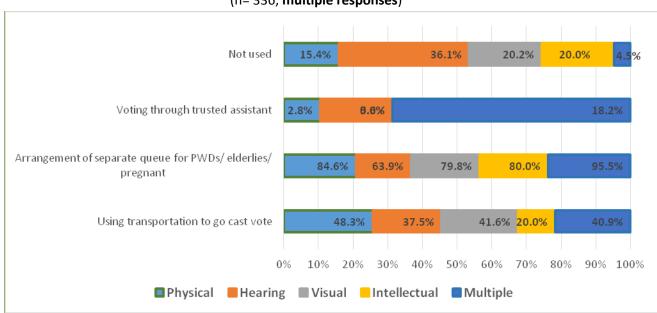


Figure 9: Disability type disaggregation-Need of E-day provision on disability (n= 336, multiple responses)

#### 5d. Utilization of the E-day provision for voters with disabilities:

Majority of the respondents (73.5%) benefitted from the arrangement of separate queue, followed by using transportation to go to vote (24.7%), and voting through trusted assistant (11%).

Not used

Voting through trusted assistant

Arrangement of separate queue for PWDs/ elderlies/
pregnant

Using transportation to go cast vote

0.0% 10.0% 20.0% 30.0% 40.0% 50.0% 60.0% 70.0% 80.0%

Figure 10: Benefitted from the E-day provision for PWDs (n=336, multiple responses)

#### 5e. Satisfaction on utilization of electoral provisions on disability:

Respondents who utilized the E-day provision were further asked if they were satisfied by the services. 66.5% of the respondents were satisfied whereas 33.5% expressed their dissatisfaction.

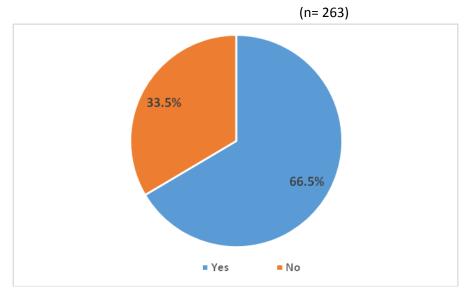


Figure 11: Satisfaction of utility of E-day provision for PWDs

Almost similar proportion, 33.1% of the male respondents and 33.8% of the female respondents were satisfied with the utility of E-day provision for PWDs.

#### 5f. Reasons of dissatisfaction on utilization of electoral provisions on disability:

Among the respondents who were not satisfied with the E-day provisions for PWDs, 95.5% expressed that polling staff were not aware of special provision and faced difficulties to obtain the facilities, 54.5% said that voters/political parties' representatives protested when they tried to use the provision and 40.9% expressed that the polling centers were not disable friendly.

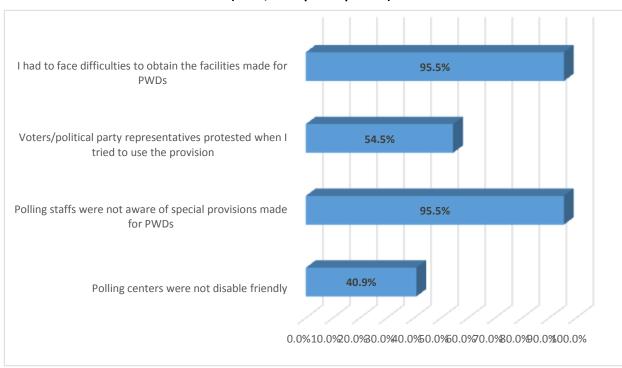


Figure 12: Reasons for dissatisfaction on utilization of provision made for PWDs (n=88, multiple responses)

The following table shows the dissatisfaction status disaggregated by types of disabilities.

Table 8: Reason for dissatisfaction of utility of E-day provision for PWDs (n=88, multiple responses)

		Type of Disability				
Why were you not satisfied?	Physical	Hearing	Visual	Multiple	Total	
Polling center was not disable	Count	17	4	8	7	36
friendly	% within disability type	43.6%	25.0%	33.3%	77.8%	
Polling staffs were not aware of	Count	35	16	24	9	84
special provisions made for PWDs	% within disability type	89.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
Voters/political representatives	Count	18	12	16	2	48
protested when I tried to use	% within disability type	46.2%	75.0%	66.7%	22.2%	
special provision						
I had to face difficulties to obtain	Count	35	16	24	9	84
the facilities made for PWDs	% within disability type	89.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
Total	Count	39	16	24	9	88

#### **CONCLUSION:**



The pre-election activities of the DPOs were focused to: 1) increasing the voters' turnout in the CA election and 2) decrease the proportion of invalid votes. The major objective of this survey was to explore voter expectations about the outcome of the overall conducted voter education, degree of voter interest as well as participation in the electoral process. Post-election interviews included questions for individual interviews on actual voting behavior and voter reflections about the voter education campaign outcome. Therefore the survey was conducted only in the VDCs where the voter education activities were conducted.

The overall result is very reassuring and documents the effective implementation of the voter education activities. The result shows the overwhelming participation of the PWDs (83%) in the CA election; this result includes the total respondents. The proportion would be even higher (88.1%) if we analyze the data excluding ineligible voters (those who don't have CC and those who have not registered in VR). The ECN record shows that 78.34% of the eligible voters had cast their vote in the CA election. Thus the voter education activities conducted by DPOs has supported ECN's objective to some extent in increasing the voter turnout.

The survey result also shows that it has contributed in reducing the invalid votes of the PWDs. The ECN result shows that 4.96% of the FPTP and 3.2% of PR votes were invalid; the survey result shows that 6.4% of the target community votes are invalid.

Similarly the survey data also shows that the community level events having direct contact with the PWDs would be more effective for providing electoral education. Door- to – door visit of the CAF members was an effective medium to reach the households of persons with disabilities for voter education. The posters and leaflets made easy to understand the process of voting for them. Especially in terms of women with disabilities, reaching them in their house is the effective tool.

# **ANNEX 1**

S. No.	District	Name of VDC (interview conducted place)
1.		Bankatuwa
2.		Basudevpur
3.		Belhari
4.		Belvar
5.		Bhageshwori
6.		Binauna
7.		Chisapani
8.		Fattepur
9.		Ganapur
10.	D 1	Khajurakhud
11.	Banke	Manikapur
12.		Paraspur
13.		Puraina
14.		Puraini
15.		Radhapur
16.		Saigaun
17.		Samshergaunj
18.		Sitapur
19.		Tithariya
20.		Udarapur
21.		Bijauri
22.		Dharna
23.		Dhikpur
24.		Halwar
25.	Dang	Kavre
26.		Laxmipur
27.		Manpur
28.		Rampur
29.		Saiga
30.		Saudiyar
31.		Bagnaha
32.		Baniyavar
33.		Belwa
34.		Deudakala
35.		Dhadawar
36.		Dhodari
37.		Jamuni
38.	Bardiya	Kalika
39.		Magragadi
40.		Mahamadpur
41.		Mainapokhar
42.		Motipur
43.		Padnaha
44.		Sanoshree
45.		Sorahawa

46.		Suryapatuwa
47.		Taratal
48.		Thakurdwara
49.		Baliya
50.		Bauniya
51.		Beladevipur
52.		Bhajani
53.		Chaumala
54.		Chuha
55.		Geta
56.	Kailali	Godawari
57.		Lalbojhi
58.		Malakheti
59.		Masuriya
60.		Pahalmanpur
61.		Ramshikharjhala
62.		Sadepani Sadepani
63.		Shripur
64.		Udasipur
65.		Baisebichuwa
66.		Beldandi
67.		Chandani
68.		Daiji
69.		Daiji Dekhatvuli
70.		Dodhara
71.		Jhalari
72.		Kalika
73.		Krishnapur
74.	Kanchanpur	Laxmipur
75.	-	Parasan
76.		Pipaladi
77.		Raikawarbichuwa
78.		RaiteliBichuwa
79.		Rampur Bilashpur
80.		Shankarpur
81.		Shreepur
82.		Suda
83.		Tribhuvanbasti
84.		Ajaymeru
85.		Alital
86.		Asigram
87.		Bagarkot
88.		Belapur
89.		Bhadrapur
90.		Bhageshwar
91.		Chipur
92.		Dewaldivyapur
93.		Ganeshpur
13.		Ganconpui

94.		Gankhet
95.	Dadeldhura	Jogbuda
96.		Kailapalmandu
97.		Koteli
98.		Manilek
99.		Mastamandu
100.		Nawadurga
101.		Rupal
102.		Samaiji
103.		Sirsha

# **ANNEX 2: Survey Questionnaire**

Survey to as	sess effectivene	ss of election foo	cused activitie	s of disability	Project	
अन्तर्वाता स्थान : जिल्लागा.वि.सगा.वि.स अन्तवार्ता दिने व्यक्तिः □पुरुष □महिला						
अपाङ्गताको प्रकारः						
उमेर : वर्ष	95 - 7x (A)	२६-३५ (B)	<b>3</b> €−8X ( <b>C</b> )	४६-४४ (D)	५५-माथि (E)	
शिक्षा: □िनरक्षर □अनौप	ाचारिक शिक्षा	क तह (कक्षा १-५)	∐निम्न माध्यमिक त	ह (कक्षा ६-८)	□माध्यमिक	
तह (कक्षा ९–१०) □उच्च माध्यमिक तह (कक्षा ११–१२) □विश्वविद्यालय तह या माथि						
. के तपाईले मसिर ४, २०७० ()गरें(गरेको भए प्रश्न नं ३ म		प्रभाको निर्वाचनमा मतव ्रिगरिन(गरिन भन्ने	•	न नं २ मा जानुहोस)		
. यदि मतदानगर्नु भएन भने व्	क्रेको छैन (९८ वर्ष भन ोो नाम दर्ता गरेको छैन प्त सुरक्षा नभएको मह ोन दर्ता गराएको तर नामा	दा मुनि)	ा वाहिर थिएं मतदान केन्द्र अर्को रि म जान नसकिएकोले भएकोले भोट खसाल	जेलला ∕ गा.वि.स. मा ो भोट खसाल्न पाइएन		
<ul> <li>यदि मतदान गर्नु भएको भए</li> <li>a) तपाईले मतपत्रमा पार्ट</li> </ul>	•	•		<b>ग प्रश्नका उत्तर दिनु</b>	होलाः	
<b>ि</b> स्वस्तिक छाप	<b>्र</b> औंठाछाप	○अन्य	• • • • • • •			
b) तपाईले दुइटा छुट्टा छ्	<u>इ</u> ट्टै मतपत्रमा छाप ल	गाउनु भयो कि एउटा ग	नतपत्रमा मात्र?			
	ग्मा	○एउटा	मतपत्रमा मात्र			
c) तपाईले एउटा मतपत्रग	ना एक भन्दा वढि छाप	हाल्नु भयो?				
<b>्र</b> हालें	<b>्र</b> हालिन					
d) तपाईले मतपत्रमा छाप	· लगाउदा चारैतिरको '	घेरालाई नछुवाई विचमा	पर्ने गरेर लगाउनु	भयो?		
<b>्</b> लगाएं	<b>्</b> लगाइन	<b>्</b> थाहाभएन				
. तपाईले सिंह तरिकाले मतद िटि.भि ेरेडियो ेसडक नाटक ेप ेनिर्वाचन आयोग (जि.नि.का, ेअरु कुनै भए उल्लेख गर्न हो	्रिपत्रपत्रिक्तिप्या प्टर ्रपि नि.सि.का, स्वयमसेवव	म्पलेट/पर्चा खार/साथीभाइ/छिमेकी ह) (राजनितिक पार्टी	्रसा.पै ○समृह ⁄ उम्मेदवार	ा.म.को घरघुरी भ्रमण अमाजनचेतना बैठक ○मैले	क्नै माध्यम वाट पनि	
िअरु कुन मेए उल्लंख गेनु हा सिकिन	લા			Онм	कुन माळ्यम याट पान	
. निर्वाचन भन्दा अगाडि के त Oिथयो (प्र. <i>नं</i> . यदि थियो भने, तपाईले यी	<i>५ मा थिएन र प्र.नं १</i>	मा गरिन भन्ने उत्तर	आएमा प्रश्न नं ६-१		ा थाहा थियो ?	

्रसा.पै.म.को घरघुरी भ्रमण	○टि.भि							
<b>ि</b> प्याम्पलेट / पर्चा	•							
7. यदि थियो भने, तपाईलाई कस्ता कस्ता सुविधाहरुको बारेमा जानकारी थियो ? (बहुउत्तर प्रश्न)								
्रियातायातको साधन प्रयोग								
्रसहयोगी मार्फत मतदान । 	गर्न पाउने अन्य							
8. यी सुविधाहरु मध्ये, तपाईलाई कस्तो प्रकारको सुविधाहरुको आवश्यकता थियो ? (बहुउत्तर प्रश्न)								
<b>ा</b> यातायातको साधन प्रयोग	्यातायातको साधन प्रयोग गर्न पाउने							
🔘 सहयोगी मार्फत मतदान गर्न पाउने 💮 आवश्यकता थिएन								
9. यस सुविधाहरु मध्ये, तपाईले यस निर्वाचनमा कुन कुन सुविधाहरुको प्रयोग गर्नु भयो ?(बहुउत्तर प्रश्न)								
<b>ा</b> यातायातको साधन प्रयोग		गर्न पाउने						
सहयोगी मार्फत मतदान ।	○सहयोगी मार्फत मतदान गर्न पाउने							
10. निर्वाचनमा प्रयोग गरेकायी सुविधाहरुबाट तपाई सन्तुष्ट हुनु हुन्छ ?								
○सन्तुष्ट छु	○सन्तुष्ट छैन	f						
	11. यदि सन्तुष्ट हुनु हुन्न भने, के कारणले सन्तुष्ट हुनुहुन्न ? (बहुउत्तर प्रश्न)							
— मतदानकेन्द्र अपाङ्गतामैत्रि थिएन — ऐसेवाहरुका बारेमा निर्वाचन कर्मचारीलाई थाहा थिएन								
○आफुले रोजेको उम्मेदवार/दललाई मतदान गर्न पाईन ○सुविधा लिँदा दलका प्रतिनिधि/मतदाताहरुले विरोध गरे								
○सहज तरीकाले सुविधाहरु लिन पाईएन ○अन्य								
Particulars	NAME	DATE	SIGNATURE					
INTERVIEWER								
SUPERVISOR CHECK								
		i .	1					
RECALL/VERIFY								

# **ANNEX 3: Name list of Interviewer and Supervisor**

Name of Interviewer	District	No. Of Interviews conducted	Name of Supervisor
Bibek Khadka	Dang	20	Basu Dev Rijal
Sushila BC	Dang	20	Basu Dev Rijal
Dhirendra Bishwokarma	Banke	40	Devi Datta Acharya
Dipa Thapa	Banke	40	Devi Datta Acharya
Jitendra Singh Pujara	Kanchanpur	36	Upendra Bahadur Khadayat
Parbati Bista	Kanchanpur	32	Upendra Bahadur Khadayat
Upendra Bahadur Khadayat	Kanchanpur	8	Upendra Bahadur Khadayat
Krishna Chhetri	Bardiya	44	Dal Bahadur BK
Tik K. Adhikari	Bardiya	28	Dal Bahadur BK
Nand Raj Bhatta	Kailali	32	Man Bahadur Saud
Pashupati Chand	Kailali	32	Man Bahadur Saud
Sabitri Awasthi	Dadeldhura	40	Subas Sawad
Rajendra Prasad Pant	Dadeldhura	40	Subas Sawad
Total		412	